

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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UNCLAS ATHENS 5752

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PGOV, GR, US
SUBJECT: GOG SPOKESMAN COMMENTS ON CARAMANLIS VISIT TO US AND
POSSIBLE CLIFFORD MISSION

1. FROM TIME TO TIME, STORIES APPEAR IN THE GREEK PRESS
REPORTING THAT PRIME MINISTER CARAMANLIS IS ABOUT TO VISIT
THE U.S. ON SUCH-AND-SUCH A DATE OR WITHIN A CERTAIN TIME FRAME.
THE LATEST WAS AN ARTICLE APPEARING IN LEFTIST ELEFTHEROTYPIA JUNE
20 BY ITS WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT STRATIS ZAHARIADIS SAYING
DIPLOMATIC AND GREEK-AMERICAN SOURCES IN WASHINGTON CLAIM THE VISIT
WILL OCCUR THIS SUMMER AND QUOTING WEST GERMAN JOURNALISTIC SOURCES
AS SPECIFYING IT WILL TAKE PLACE IN JULY.

2. IN RESPONSE, ACCORDING TO THE SEMI-OFFICIAL ATHENS NEWS AGENCY
BULLETIN, AN "AUTHORITATIVE SOURCES" DESCRIBED THE PRESS REPORTS AS
INACCURATE AND SAID THAT THE ISSUE OF A TRIP "HAS NOT BEEN RAISED
SO FAR." THE SOURCE ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT THERE IS A STANDING
INVITATION FOR MR CARAMANLIS TO VISIT THE U.S., BUT THAT A TIME
HAS NOT BEEN FIXED.

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3. THE SOURCE, REFERRING TO SEPARATE PRESS REPORTS CONCERNING
A SECOND VISIT TO THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN AREA BY PRESIDENTIAL
SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE CLARK CLIFFORD (STIMULATED APPARENTLY, AT
LEAST IN PART, BY THE COMMENTS BY PRESIDENT MAKARIOS--NICOSIA 1608--
UPON HIS RETURN TO CYPRUS JUNE 19), SAID THE MATTER WAS "UNCLEAR,"
IN VIEW OF THE UNRESOLVED POLITICAL SITUATION IN TURKEY. HE CONCLUDED

THAT ONLY AFTER THE FORMATION OF A VIABLE GOVERNMENT IN ANKARA
WOULD THERE BE AN EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON THIS MATTER.
KUBISCH

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Message Attributes

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